

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of)
SUSAN FORBES) CONTROLLING PRINTING ON A NETWORK

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202
March 14, 2002

Box Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to computing the filing fee in this application, kindly amend the above identified application, as follows. The filing fee is to be computed on the amended claims.

In the Specification:

Beginning at page 1, between the title and the first line of text, the specification has been amended as follows:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

The present application claims priority from European Patent Application No. 01302520.0, filed March 16, 2001.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Before the paragraph beginning at line 15 of page 1 insert the following:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Before the paragraph beginning at line 29 of page 3 insert the following:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Before the paragraph beginning at line 1 of page 4 insert the following:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

In the Claims:

Please amend claim 3 as follows:

3. A method according to claim 1, wherein the credit token database is located on a server remote from the printer server.

Please amend claim 10 as follows:

10. (amended) A method according to claim 9, wherein the printer server database queries the printer server for an identity string and compares this string against a database of authorised identities; and if the identity is found within the database then the printer server database enables the credit token database to buy digital print credit tokens, receive information on revised pricing plans or order additional consumables.

Please amend claim 11 as follows:

11. (amended) A method according to claim 9, wherein the purchase of print credit tokens is achieved by authorising payment from an account associated with the respective printer.

Please amend claim 14 as follows:

14. (amended) A method according to claim 9, where verification of the identity of the printer server is achieved by use of a hardware key, or dongle attached to the printer server.

Please amend claim 15 as follows:

15. (amended) A method according to claim 9, wherein the computer network is any one of a local area network, intranet, wide area network, and the Internet.

Please amend claim 16 as follows:

16. (amended) A method according to claim 9, further comprising restoring a credit token to the credit token database if the print fails to complete.

Please amend claim 17 as follows:

17. A method in accordance with claim 9, further comprising providing a block token issuer; and authorising blocks of credits to the printer server database for enabling print credit tokens to be supplied to the credit token database.

Please add the following claims:

18. (new) A method according to claim 1, wherein
the printer server database queries the printer server for an identity string
and compares this string against a database of authorised identities; and
if the identity is found within the database then the printer server database
enables the credit token database to buy digital print credit tokens, receive information on
revised pricing plans or order additional consumables.

19. (new) A method according to claim 18, wherein the purchase of print credit tokens is achieved by authorising payment from an account associated with the respective printer.

20. (new) A method according to claim 1, where verification of the identity of the printer server is achieved by use of a hardware key, or dongle attached to the printer server.

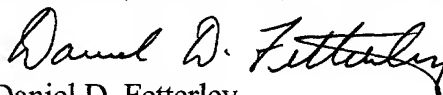
21. (new) A method according to claim 1, wherein the computer network is any one of a local area network, intranet, wide area network, and the Internet.

22. (new) A method according to claim 1, further comprising restoring a credit token to the credit token database if the print fails to complete.

23. (new) A method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising providing a block token issuer; and authorising blocks of credits to the printer server database for enabling print credit tokens to be supplied to the credit token database.

Respectfully submitted,

ANDRUS, SCEALES, STARKE & SAWALL, LLP

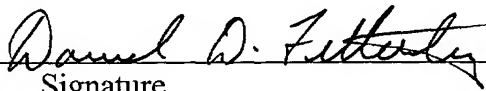


Daniel D. Fetterley
(Reg. No. 20,323)

100 East Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 1100
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202
(414) 271-7590
Atty. Docket No. 124-00111 (C.12149-118)

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAIL

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<u>Daniel D. Fetterley</u>	<u>20,323</u>
Name	Reg. No.
<u></u>	<u>3/15/02</u>
Signature	Date

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Atty. Docket No. 2542-00033

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Before the paragraph beginning at line 1 of page 4 insert the following:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

In the Claims:

Claim 3 has been amended as follows:

3. A method according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~, wherein the credit token database is located on a server remote from the printer server.

Claim 10 has been amended as follows:

10. (amended) A method according to ~~claim 1 or claim 9~~, wherein

the printer server database queries the printer server for an identity string and compares this string against a database of authorised identities; and

5 if the identity is found within the database then the printer server database enables the credit token database to buy digital print credit tokens, receive information on revised pricing plans or order additional consumables.

Claim 11 has been amended as follows:

11. (amended) A method according to claim 9 ~~or claim 10~~, wherein the purchase of print credit tokens is achieved by authorising payment from an account associated with the respective printer.

Claim 14 has been amended as follows:

14. (amended) A method according to ~~claim 1 or claim 9~~, where verification of the identity of the printer server is achieved by use of a hardware key, or dongle attached to the printer server.

Claim 15 has been amended as follows:

15. (amended) A method according to ~~claim 1 or claim 9~~, wherein the computer network is any one of a local area network, intranet, wide area network, and the Internet.

Claim 16 has been amended as follows:

16. (amended) A method according to ~~claim 1 or claim 9~~, further comprising restoring a credit token to the credit token database if the print fails to complete.

Claim 17 has been amended as follows:

17. A method in accordance with ~~claim 1 or claim 9~~, further comprising providing a block token issuer; and authorising blocks of credits to the printer server database for enabling print credit tokens to be supplied to the credit token database.